

*Lebanon*¹

RIGHTS OF AMERICAN NATIONALS

Exchange of notes at Beirut September 7 and 8, 1944

Entered into force September 8, 1944

58 Stat. 1493; Executive Agreement Series 435

The American Diplomatic Agent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
September 7, 1944

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that my Government has observed with friendly and sympathetic interest the accelerated transfer of governmental powers to the Lebanese and Syrian Governments since November 1943 and now takes the view that the Lebanese and Syrian Governments may now be considered representative, effectively independent and in a position satisfactorily to fulfil their international obligations and responsibilities.

The United States is, therefore, prepared to extend full and unconditional recognition of the independence of Lebanon, upon receipt from Your Excellency's Government of written assurances that the existing rights of the United States and its nationals, particularly as set forth in the treaty of 1924 between the United States and France,² are fully recognized and will be effectively continued and protected by the Lebanese Government, until such time as appropriate bilateral accord may be concluded by direct and mutual agreement between the United States and Lebanon.

¹ Certain agreements between the United States and France were, or are, applicable also to Lebanon. See *ante*, vol. 7, p. 763, FRANCE.

² TS 695, *ante*, vol. 7, p. 925, FRANCE.

I am to add that, following the receipt of such assurances, my Government proposes to appoint an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary as its representative near the Lebanese Government and would be pleased to receive in the United States a diplomatic representative of Lebanon of the same grade.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

G. WADSWORTH

His Excellency

SELIM BEY TAKLA,

*Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Republic of Lebanon,
Beirut.*

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Diplomatic Agent

N° 2162

BEYROUTH, le 8 Septembre 1944

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that I have received with satisfaction your note dated 7th September, 1944, in which you conveyed the view of the United States Government that the Lebanese Government may now be considered representative, effectively independent and in a position satisfactorily to fulfil his international obligations and responsibilities; and that therefore the United States is prepared to extend full and unconditional recognition of the independence of Lebanon upon receipt of written assurances that the existing rights of the United States and its nationals, particularly as set forth in the Treaty of 1924 between the United States and France, are fully recognised and will be effectively continued and protected by the Lebanese Government until such time as appropriate bilateral accord may be concluded by direct and mutual agreement between the United States and Lebanon.

The Lebanese Government have taken note of the friendly attitude of the United States Government, and they highly appreciate this noble geste. It is my pleasant task to convey to you the assurances of the Lebanese Government that the existing rights of the United States and its nationals particularly as set forth in the Treaty of 1924 between the United States and France, are fully recognised and will be effectively continued and protected, until such time as appropriate bilateral accord may be concluded by direct and mutual agreement between Lebanon and the United States.

I have the honour to add that the Lebanese Government welcome the proposed appointment by the Government of the United States, of an Envoy

Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary as representative accredited to the President of the Lebanese Republic, and propose to appoint a representative of the same rank to be accredited near the President of the United States.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

SÉLIM TAKLA
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

His Excellence,
Mr. GEORGE WADSWORTH
*United States Diplomatic Agent,
Beirut.*